

Minutes 2004 W-6 Technical Advisory Committee  
Corvallis, OR  
June 24-25, 2004

**Attending:**

Name	Affiliation
Jack Martin	Montana State University, Bozeman, MT
Dan Parfitt	UC-Davis, Davis, CA
Ann Marie Thro	USDA CSREES, Washington, DC
Maria Jenderek	USDA ARS, Parlier, CA
Dave Ianson	Palmer, AK
Harold Bockelman	USDA ARS, NSGC, Aberdeen, ID
Kim E. Hummer	USDA ARS NCGR, Corvallis, OR
Kevin Jensen	USDA ARS, USU, Logan, UT
Peter Bretting	USDA ARS NPGS, Washington, DC
Sandra Ristow	Washington State Univ., Pullman, WA
Bernie Prins	USDA ARS NCGR, Davis, CA
John Cho	Univ. Hawaii
Bob Zemetra	Univ. Idaho, Moscow, ID
Mark Brick	Colorado State Univ. Ft Collins, CO
Jim Myers	Oregon State Univ., Corvallis, OR
Richard Hannan	USDA ARS WRPIS, Pullman, WA
Robert Krueger	USDA ARS NCGR, Riverside, CA
Joseph Postman	USDA ARS NCGR, Corvallis, OR
Nahla Bassil	USDA ARS NCGR, Corvallis, OR
Jack Peters	USDA ARS NCGR, Corvallis, OR
Joe Snead	USDA ARS NCGR, Corvallis, OR
Barbra Reed	USDA ARS NCGR, Corvallis, OR

**Current W-6 Officers:**

Kevin Jensen, Chair  
Jack Martin, Vice chair  
Ian Ray, Secretary

**Thursday June 24, 2004**

Welcome to Corvallis and Oregon State University: Russ Karrow, Head Crop and Soil Science department at OSU welcomed the group to OSU and gave an overview of OSU and the Corvallis community.

The meeting was called to order by Chair K. Jensen at 8:30 am. Committee members and guests were introduced.

Jack Martin volunteered to be acting secretary in Ian Ray's absence.

**Minutes of 2003 annual meeting:**

Motion: Minutes of the 2003 TAC meeting should be approved as written. (Moved by R. Zemetra, second by J. Martin). Motion passed.

**Committee assignments:**

Resolutions: Mark Brick (chair) Dan Parfitt, and Jack Martin.

Nominations: Dan Parfitt and Bob Zemetra.

**W6 Administrative Advisor's report - Sandra Ristow for Ralph Cavalieri:**

Western directors approved the 2005 budget as submitted pending approval of Hatch funds. Congress is scrutinizing all funding, especially those funds which are "off-the-top", such as those for W-6, to see if the activities are useful to Land Grant university researchers. Congress is considering shifting funds from multistate projects to competitive grant funding such as the USDA-NRI. Ralph would like all W-6 to TAC state representatives to inventory their distributions of accessions to researchers, versus those sent to home-owners and other recipients. He believes that if W-6 participants are striving to send the preponderance of their materials to researchers, our multistate effort will be seen in a positive light. These activities will be evidence to Congress that we are indeed achieving the important pillar of the mission to assist research and will help preserve funds for multistate activities.

**National small grains collection, Aberdeen, ID** – Harold Bockelman (see submitted report and website):

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/ars/PacWest/Aberdeen/nsgc.html>

An addition to the Aberdeen facility is on schedule for construction. This will house advanced genetics research.

**National Clonal Germplasm Repository, Corvallis, OR** – Kim Hummer (see submitted report and website):

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/cor/>

Program additions include a molecular geneticist and seed physiologist.

**National Clonal Germplasm Repository, Davis, CA** – Bernard Prins (see submitted report and website):

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/dav/>

Dr. Ed Stover will assume the research leader/curator position this fall.

**National Clonal Germplasm Repository, Hilo, HI** – No report:

**National Clonal Germplasm Repository, Riverside, CA** – Robert Krueger (see website):

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/ars/PacWest/Riverside/homepg1.htm>

**National Center for Genetic Resource Preservation, Fort Collins, CO** – no report:

**Natural Resources Conservation Service** – no report:

**Western Regional PI Station report and budget request, Pullman, WA** – Rich Hannan (See submitted report and website);

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/ars/PacWest/Pullman/>

The management unit included CRIS projects at Pullman, WA (Western regional plant introduction station), Prosser, WA (National Temperate Forage Legume Genetic Resources Unit) and Parlier CA (National Arid Land Plant Genetic Resources Unit). Staff changes included addition of a person to help with additional work related to the 40 acre site at Central Ferry. A laboratory technician was added for molecular geneticist. A competitive two-year postdoc position was awarded to Dr. Coyne in the pea program. A power unit was added to give backup power for seed storage. A modular unit was obtained and moved to provide office space for scientists and staff. Lease agreement on 40 acres at Central Ferry was firmed up, but water rights are still an unresolved issue. An 80 million dollar ARS building is due to be constructed on WSU campus. This building would provide space for W6 people. This is due to come on line in 2008. There is a need for additional space to store field samples. Staff will work on finding space for this purpose in the next year.

Rich outlined and explained the proposed budget for FY 2006. The budget request is \$365,000 from regional research funding. This proposed budget shows no increase over FY 2005. Regional research funding provides about 13% of total funding.

Motion: The W6 TAC endorses and approves the proposed budget of \$365,000 for FY 2006. (Moved by M. Brick, second by R. Zemetra) Motion passed.

Rich noted that scientists within the management unit have obtained outside funding. Some grants have been across agencies. These activities foster interagency collaboration, which was the original purpose of regional research projects such as W6.

As a means to learn about each person's role at the regional station, the Pullman station had Food and Fact day. Each staff person talked about their work, while scientists got only five minutes.

**National Artic Plant Germplasm Resource Unit, Palmer, AK** – Dave Ianson (see submitted report):

Rhubarb does extremely well in this Northern climate. They are looking at the feasibility of a rhubarb processing plant at Palmer, AK.

**National Arid Land Plant Germplasm Resource Unit, Parlier, CA** – Maria Jenderek (see submitted report):

A discussion followed on collecting rare plants and endangered species.

**National Germplasm Resources Lab** – No report:

**Germplasm Resources Program** – Peter Bretting (See submitted report):

Recent budget increases have allowed for hiring new scientists and staff and upgrading existing and construction of some new facilities across the NPGS system. Nearly all ARS CRIS in National Program area 301 (includes plant genetic resource management, genetic improvement, genomics, bioinformatics, and genomic data base management) have been reviewed by outside peer reviewers. Negotiations regarding the international exchange of germplasm are ongoing.

**Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service** – Ann Maria Thro:

An organizational flow chart of USDA agencies was presented. This pointed out relationships between funding sources. Members were reminded of the importance of the impact statements on annual CRIS reports. These can be an effective means to convey importance of plant germplasm and genetic resources to the lay public. Several members pointed out the importance of getting information from previous years, as it usually takes several years to fully utilize and obtain direct impact from a new plant accession.

**State reports:**

Wyoming, Robin Gross – see submitted report:

New Mexico, Ian ray – see submitted report:

Colorado, Mark Brick – see submitted report:

Washington, Steve Jones – see submitted report:

Montana, Jack Martin – see submitted report:

California, Dan Parfitt – See submitted report:

Utah, Kevin Jensen – See submitted report:

Idaho, Bob Zemetra – See submitted report:

Arizona, Dennis Ray – no report:

Oregon, Shawn Mehlanbacher – see submitted report:

Hawaii, reported by Rich Hannan:  
Alaska, reported by Rich Hannan:

Members noted that PIs are being used extensively for genetic marker work. There is concern as to whether NPGS is being acknowledged. National Ag Library is being petitioned to implement a system to index on PI or taxa in order to better track usage of plant germplasm.

There is concern about fate of plant germplasm collections held by individual breeders/geneticists. These are in danger of being lost when a person retires. NPGS has saved some of these collections.

### **Business meeting:**

Plant exploration proposals – Fifteen proposals were considered. The final decision on the proposals was not know, but probably not all would be funded.

New business:

Elections – The nominations committee nominated Dan Parfitt as incoming secretary.

Motion: Move that nominations be closed (Move by R. Zemetra, second by M. Brick).  
Motion passed.

Motion: Move to elect Dan Parfitt as secretary (Move by M. Brick, second by R. Zemetra). Motion Passed.

Meeting sites:

The W6 TAC had voted to meet in Bozeman, MT in 2005. See 2003 W6 TAC minutes. Jack Martin will work with Rich Hannan on finalizing that date for the 2005 meeting. It was reported that NC7 TAC will issue an invitation to host a joint meeting of the four regional TACs in Ames, IA in 2006. Since the formal invitation has not yet been received, the committee did not take any action.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

### **Friday June 25, 2004**

Kim Hummer and staff led a tour of facilities and programs at NCGR at Corvallis.

Submitted by  
Jack Martin  
Acting W6 TAC Secretary

**Resolutions:**

Resolution 1: Be it resolved that W6 TAC thank personnel at National Clonal Germplasm Repository at Corvallis, OR for hosting the W-6 meeting, especially Drs. Kim Hummer, and Joseph Postman and the entire staff at NCGR. (Motion to approve the resolution. Move by R. Zemetra, second by D. Parfitt) Motion passed.

Resolution 2: Be it resolved that W6 TAC thanks Kevin Jensen for his leadership as chair of the committee for past two years. (Motion to approve the resolution. Move by D. Parfitt, second by M. Brick) Motion passed.

Resolution 3: Be it resolved that the W6 TAC thanks Peter Bretting from NPGS and Ann Marie Thro from CSREES for their participation in the W6 TAC meeting in Corvallis, OR June 24 and 25, 2004. The W6 TAC encourages their participation in the future. (Motion to approve the resolution. Move by D. R. Zemetra, second by D. Parfitt) Motion passed.